

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 056226  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 056226

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, MILI, HU, PL, GW

SUBJECT: NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU) 1978 FIELD  
STUDIES PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE (NWC) AND THE  
INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF THE ARMED FORCES (ICAF), APRIL 9-22

REF: (A) STATE 047475; (B) WARSAW 1638 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES EMBASSY'S WARNING (REF B) THAT  
PROPOSAL, AS CONTAINED IN REF A, TO SEND GROUPS FROM BOTH  
THE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE (NWC) AND INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE OF  
THE ARMED FORCES (ICAF) TO POLAND IN APRIL, TOGETHER WITH  
VISIT TO WARSAW MARCH 11-14 BY TWO MEMBERS OF ARMY WAR  
COLLEGE AT CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA, MAY WELL BE MORE GOP  
WOULD BE PREPARED TO SWALLOW. WE AGREE, PARTICULARLY IN  
LIGHT OF CHILLY REJECTION BY POLISH MINISTRY OF DEFENSE IN  
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1977 OF PROPOSAL FOR NWC VISIT, THAT TO GO FORWARD AS  
EMBASSY WAS INSTRUCTED MAY WELL SIMPLY RESULT IN ANOTHER  
GOP VE-O OF NWC VISIT. WE ALSO AGREE THAT EVEN THOUGH ICAF  
AND CARLISLE VISITS WOULD NOT INVOLVE MEETINGS OUTSIDE  
EMBASSY, POLES MAY WELL PERCEIVE THEM AS OTHER PARTS OF A  
US "OFFENSIVE."

2. DEPARTMENT'S VIEW IS THAT, IN ORDER TO GET FOOT IN THE DOOR, WE MUST START SMALL. IN RESPONSE EARLIER TO INFORMAL

COMMENTS FROM POLES, WE OBTAINED DOD AND NWC AGREEMENT TO SEEK A NWC PROGRAM WHICH WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY AT WORKING LEVEL AND PRIMARILY WITH CIVILIAN ORGANIZATIONS.

- IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT NWC GROUP WHICH WOULD VISIT WARSAW WOULD NOT CONTAIN ANY CIVILIANS THIS YEAR, SO IT DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE TO ACCOMMODATE THEM ON THAT POINT.

3. WE BELIEVE THAT, IN INTEREST OF GETTING GOP ACCEPTANCE, THE PLANNED ICAF AND ARMY WAR COLLEGE VISITS SHOULD EITHER BE DROPPED OR POSTPONED, SO THAT EMBASSY COULD PROPOSE TO GOP ONLY A VISIT BY NWC IN APRIL. WE HAVE CONSULTED INFORMALLY THIS WEEK WITH SENIOR FSO'S ON THE FACULTY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY (NDU) AND THE NWC, AND THEY WERE UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHETIC TO OUR PROPOSAL. HOWEVER, IT WILL BE NECESSARY (ASSUMING YOU AGREE) FOR THE EMBASSY TO SUBMIT A RECOMMENDATION TO THIS EFFECT VIA NORMAL-DISTRIBUTION CABLE, IN PART SINCE THE NDU HAS NO JURISDICTION OVER CARLISLE.

4. WE ALSO DISCUSSED POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING SIZE OF NWC GROUP (NOW PROPOSED AS 16 STUDENTS AND 2 FACULTY). NDU IS PREPARED TO BE FLEXIBLE ON THIS AS WELL, BUT WOULD PREFER THAT EMBASSY PROPOSE THE 18-MAN GROUP, WHILE  
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GIVING EMBASSY SOME DISCRETION TO SUGGEST SMALLER GROUP IF THAT WOULD SEEM TO FACILITATE GOP ACCEPTANCE. (ALSO, THERE IS GOOD CHANCE GROUP WOULD BE SOMEWHAT SMALLER IF USSR NDU VISIT WORKS OUT FOR THIS SPRING.) EMBASSY'S CABLE SHOULD COVER THIS POINT AS WELL, IF YOU BELIEVE SIZE OF GROUP IS A PROBLEM.

5. NDU FACULTY ALSO SUGGESTED TO US THAT, AS WAS CASE IN SOVIET VISIT, GROUP BE DESCRIBED AS ONE AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY, RATHER THAN USE "NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE" TITLE, WHICH MAY RAISE MORE EYEBROWS. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, THEY SAID, THAT IF ICAF VISIT DROPPED, ONE OR TWO ICAF STUDENTS WOULD BE INCLUDED, THUS GIVING MORE SUBSTANCE TO NDU LABEL.

6. FOR BUDAPEST: EUR/EE (ANDREWS AND SCHMIDT) RAISED PROPOSED NWC VISIT WITH AMBASSADOR BARTHA OVER LUNCH ON MARCH 1ST. BARTHA NOTED THAT AMBASSADOR KAISER HAD ALERTED HIM SOON AFTER HIS ARRIVAL LAST YEAR THAT WE WOULD BE PROPOSING SUCH A VISIT, BUT OTHERWISE WAS NON-COMMITTAL, PRESUMABLY IN LIGHT OF POSSIBILITY THAT EMBASSY BUDAPEST HAD ALREADY TAKEN MATTER UP WITH THE FOREIGN

MINISTRY SINCE HIS DEPARTURE FROM BUDAPEST. WE SUGGEST  
THAT EMBASSY DELAY APPROACH, IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN  
MADE, UNTIL RECEIPT OF WASHINGTON'S RESPONSE TO SUGGESTED

WARSAW MESSAGE DESCRIBED ABOVE. ON OTHER HAND, IF YOU  
HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED POSITIVE SIGNALS FROM THE GOH,  
PLEASE INFORM US AND EMBASSY WARSAW, ESPECIALLY SINCE  
POLISH OFFICIALS HAVE INDICATED INFORMALLY THAT ACCEPTANCE  
BY HUNGARIANS MIGHT HELP SMOOTH THE WAY IN WARSAW. CHRISTOPHER

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